

RULES AND REGULATIONS

2 VAC 5-80-10 through 2 VAC 5-80-90

(Previously VR 115-02-06)

Pertaining to the

REQUIREMENTS GOVERNING THE BRANDING OF CATTLE IN VIRGINIA

Virginia Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services

DIVISION OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY SERVICES

Office of Veterinary Services

P. O. Box 1163

Richmond, VA 23218

804-786-2483

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Pertaining to the Requirements Governing the Branding of Cattle in Virginia (Previously VR 115-02-06)

Promulgated Pursuant to

Sections 3.1-796.36

of the

Code of Virginia of 1950

Adopted November 27, 1985
Reprinted June 1998

REGULATIONS 2 VAC 5-80-10 through 2 VAC 5-80-90

Pertaining to the REQUIREMENTS GOVERNING THE BRANDING OF CATTLE IN VIRGINIA

Pursuant to the authority in Section 3.1-796.36 of the Code of Virginia (1950) as amended, the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services hereby adopts the following Rules and Regulations relating to the Branding of Cattle in Virginia.

2 VAC 5-80-10. Definitions.

The following words and terms, when used in these regulations, shall have the following meaning, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

“Brand” means any recorded identification mark applied to any position on the hide of a live animal be means of heat, freezing, acid or chemical, except tattoo marks in the ear or numbers used to keep production records, record of age or identification marks used by any governmental agency.

“Department” means the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

“Livestock market” means a place where a person assembles livestock for public sale if such person is required to procure a license or permit from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to operate such market.

“Person” means any individual, partnership, corporation or association.

“State Veterinarian” means a qualified veterinarian employed by the Commissioner of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services whose duties shall be to carry out the animal health laws of the Commonwealth and the associated rules and regulations of the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

2 VAC 5-80-20. Application for registration.

Applications for the registration of brands shall be made to the State Veterinarian on forms provided by the Department. The applications must be accompanied by a check or money order payable to the Treasurer of Virginia in the amount of \$10 for each brand to be registered. In the event the Department denies registration for a brand, the registration fee of \$10 shall be returned to the applicant with a statement of the grounds of refusal.

2 VAC 5-80-30. Renewal of registration.

In order to retain their validity, brand registrations must be renewed at the beginning of every five-year registration period. Brands registered during the five-year period must be recorded on or before July 1 of the initial year of each succeeding five-year period for as long as the registrant desires to maintain the registration of his brand in Virginia. The fee of renewal of

brand registration is \$10 for each brand.

2 VAC 5-80-40. Brand transfers.

A brand that has been properly registered is the personal property of the person to whom the brand is registered. A brand may be transferred from one owner to another. The fee for such a transfer is \$3.00.

2 VAC 5-80-50. Brand certificate.

Each cattle owner who makes proper application and whose brand is registered by the Department will receive a certificate attesting to the fact that the brand is registered in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

2 VAC 5-80-60. Register of brands.

- A. The Department shall maintain a complete register of all cattle brands recorded, showing the name and address of the owner of each brand, and shall publish this register annually.
- B. Every operator of a livestock market where cattle are sold shall keep a copy of the register of brands in his place of business where it will be easily accessible for public inspection.
- C. The operator of every livestock market where cattle are sold in the Commonwealth of Virginia shall keep a record, for at least two years, of all cattle received and of the names and addresses of the owners of such cattle.

2 VAC 5-80-70. Characters used in the brand.

- A. The selection of characters for a brand must be limited to the following:
 - 1. The 26 letters of the alphabet.
 - 2. Numbers from two to nine, inclusive.
 - 3. The following symbols:

- bar	/ slash	□ box
half box	" diamond	v half-diamond
• triangle	c quarter circle.	÷ arrow.

A brand must have at least two characters and no more than three.

- B. The characters in a brand must be positioned so they may be read from left to right, or from top to bottom.

2 VAC 5-80-80. Location of brand.

- A. Location of the brand on cattle is limited to one of the following positions: left shoulder, right shoulder, left ribs, right ribs, left hip, or right hip.
- B. Care must be exercised in applying the brand so that the position of this identifying mark upon the cattle is exactly the same as shown on the brand registration application.

2 VAC 5-80-90. Transfer of branded cattle .

- A. It is unlawful for any person to alter, obliterate, deface, burn over, or otherwise disfigure or mutilate a brand, including his own brand.
- B. When buying cattle that are already branded, the buyer shall secure a bill of sale to indicate how and why he is in possession of cattle carrying another owner's brand. The new owner may then put his own brand on the cattle, provided this is done without defacing or burning over the old brand.